

Hopkins Highlights

Inspire Educate Involve Communicate



Photo by Jim Genellie

Think Hopkins: We Have It Here

Earlier this year, the City and Think Hopkins launched a new social media campaign to highlight all that Hopkins has to offer using the phrase “We Have it Here.” The idea behind this message is to show that Hopkins has it all, from wonderful parks and recreational opportunities, great customer service, quality infrastructure, amazing business owners, a wide array of entertainment, dining options and art experiences, great schools, a sense of community pride and a hometown feel.

As a Hopkins resident or business owner, your point of view and contributions are critical to the campaign’s success! Next time you see something that represents all the great things Hopkins has to offer, snap a photo and post it to Facebook using the hashtags #ThinkHopkins #WeHaveItHere. 🍷

Save the Date: Cops and Community BINGO

The Hopkins Police Department is hosting Cops and Community Bingo on Sunday, April 22, from 1 to 4 p.m., at the Hopkins Activity Center. For \$20, play 10 games and help support the Hopkins Crime Prevention Fund and Youth Outreach. Cash only. 🍷

This Spring at the Hopkins Activity Center

AARP TEK CLASS

AARP is offering free, hands-on technology workshops at the Hopkins Activity Center on Thursday, March 15.

Intro to Android Smartphones

Learn about texting, photos and apps on Android phones

9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Phones for the class will be provided. Register online at aarp.cvent.com/tektwct or call 1-800-213-4587.

Beyond the Basics

Learn about maps, voice dictation and Google Drive on Android phones

11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

SENIOR BICYCLERS

Stop by The Depot Coffee House, 9451 Excelsior Blvd., on Tuesday, April 3, at 9 a.m. for a Bike Safety and Maintenance class presented by Tonka Cycle & Ski and the Hopkins Police Department. View the spring bike schedule at www.andersendennis.com/bike-ski. 🍷

Happening at the Hopkins Pavilion

SIGN-UP FOR SKYHAWKS CAMPS

The Pavilion is excited to host Skyhawks camps this summer in Central Park! From tennis, to soccer, to football and more, there is a camp for all kids ages 4 to 12. Visit www.skyhawks.com for more information.

GET THE WIGGLES OUT AT TURF TOTS

Bring your children (ages 1-5) to the Hopkins Pavilion for Turf Tots, a drop-in program open March 1 through April 24. Kids can run and play with provided equipment including sport balls, crawl tunnels, bounce houses, hula hoops and more. Parents are required to stay on the field and supervise during the event.

Open weekdays 9 a.m.-2 p.m., \$4/session, per child. For more information, visit www.hopkinspavilion.com. 🍷

Report a Pothole

If you would like to report streets that need repair, visit the City website and click “Report a Pothole” in the Quick Links box at the bottom of the page or call Public Works at 952-939-1382. Once your submission is received, a written service request will go to the street foreman for completion as soon as possible, usually within one week. 🍷

Xcel Energy to Upgrade Lighting

In February, Xcel Energy began replacing existing street lights with new “Dark Sky” compliant LED fixtures, meaning they meet outdoor lighting industry standards for reduced glare, upright and wasted light. Work should be completed in March. Learn more about Xcel Energy’s street lighting LED conversion program on their website at xcelenergy.com/LEDStreetLighting. 🍷



EMPTY BOWLS

@ Hopkins Center for the Arts
Tuesday, March 13

11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Join us for Hopkins Schools’ 20th annual Empty Bowls Fundraiser for the ICA Food Shelf and ResourceWest. Choose from bowls created by local artists and students. Enjoy soup and bread with your neighbors, make a free will donation and more. 🍷



Upcoming at City Hall

City Council Calendar

Tuesday, March 6, 7:05 p.m.
Meeting

Tuesday, March 13, 6:30 p.m.
Work Session

Tuesday, March 20, 7 p.m.
Meeting

Tuesday, April 3, 7:05 p.m.
Meeting

Find agendas and minutes at www.hopkinsmn.com/343/City-Council. Watch City Council meetings live at www.hopkinsmn.com/349/Watch-Meetings-Live-On-Demand.

Boards and Commissions Calendar

Tuesday, March 6, 7 p.m.
Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Monday, March 26, 6:30 p.m.
Park Board

Tuesday, March 27, 6:30 p.m.
Planning and Zoning Commission

Tuesday, April 3, 7 p.m.
Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Find agendas and minutes at www.hopkinsmn.com/346/Boards-Commissions.

Meeting Broadcasts

Watch City Council and Zoning and Planning Commission meetings live on Cable Channel 16. Meetings are also replayed every day (except Tuesdays) at 7 p.m.; Thursdays at 2 p.m.; and Sundays at 1 p.m.

Elected Officials

Mayor
Molly Cummings

City Council
Katy Campbell
Kristi Halverson
Jason Gadd
Aaron Kuznia

CHECK OUT OUR NEW LOOK!

The City of Hopkins launched its new website on March 1. Check it out at www.hopkinsmn.com.

Become a Tree Steward

Hennepin County, in partnership with the University of Minnesota and the City of Hopkins, is offering a class in March for residents to become certified tree stewards. Tree stewards are trained volunteers who learn about the basics of tree care, then have opportunities to participate in tree care and tree planting events in their community.

The class will be held Saturday, March 31, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Hopkins Fire Station, 101 17th Ave. S., and will cost \$25 per person.

Learn more about the program and register on the Hennepin County website at www.hennepin.us/trees.

TAKE NOTE: Refuse and Recycling Schedule

Garbage collection will take place every week on normal pick-up days.

Recycling will be collected the weeks of March 5-8 and March 19-22.

Check Your Water Before Doing Laundry

Depending on where you live in Hopkins, hydrant flushing and sanitary sewer cleaning could affect your water color in April.

HYDRANT FLUSHING SCHEDULE

Public Works utility crews will be flushing fire hydrants throughout the community in April. Schedules may be adjusted due to weather conditions.

If you own or manage a business or townhome/apartment complex, please arrange for your private hydrants to be flushed by a contractor during the same time frame that the City is flushing in your area.



- **April 9–13**
Hydrants north of Excelsior Boulevard and west of Highway 169
- **April 16–20**
Hydrants south of Excelsior Boulevard and west of Highway 169
- **April 23–27**
Hydrants east of Highway 169

During hydrant flushing it is normal to experience some discolored water. **Residents are cautioned against doing laundry—particularly whites—while crews are in the neighborhood.** This water is safe to drink and can be cleared up by running the cold water in your laundry tub.

If you experience problems, please contact Public Works at 952-548-6373.

Could Your Home Be More Efficient?

Avoid wasting both money and energy and benefit from a more comfortable living space by scheduling a visit from the Home Energy Squad. Because of the City's partnership with HES, Hopkins residents pay only \$50 (normally \$100) for a visit from this team of trusted energy consultants. At the visit, they will:

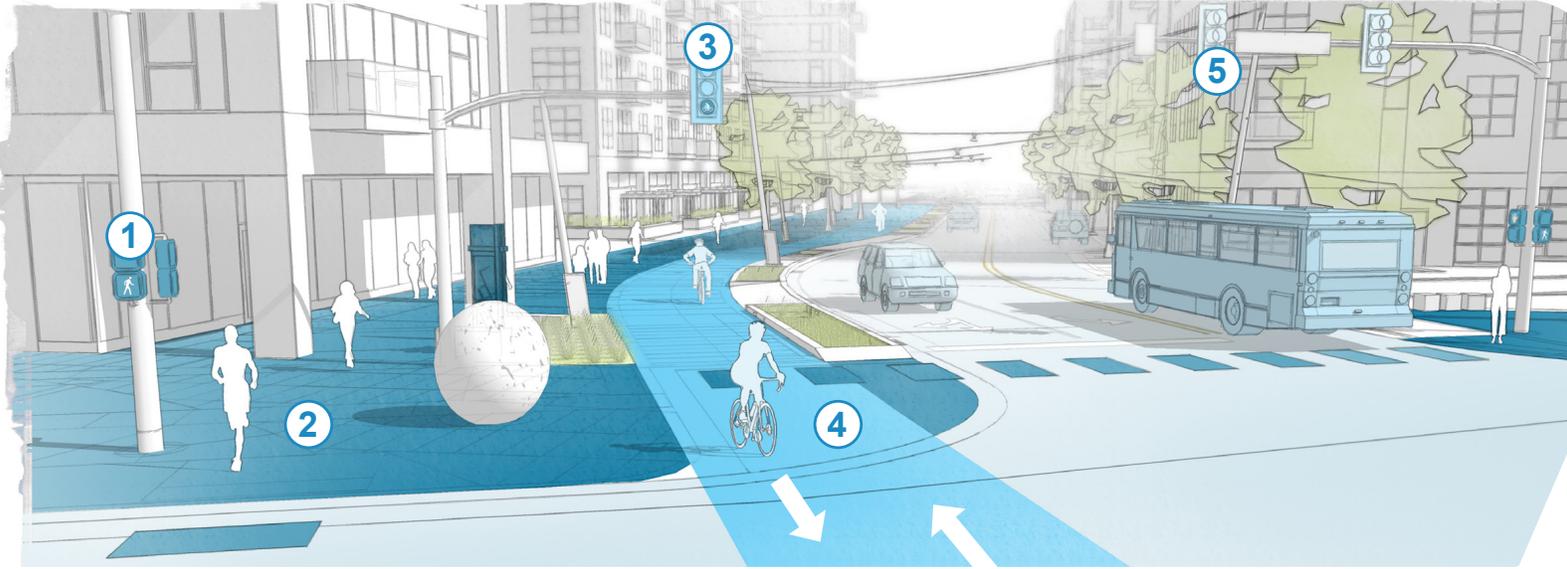


- Perform a blower door test (as pictured) to measure your home for air leaks.
- Complete an insulation inspection.
- Safety check your home's heating system and water heater.
- Install energy saving materials (including door weather stripping, LED lightbulbs, high-efficiency showerheads and faucet aerators, water heater blankets and a programmable thermostat).

Upon completion of the inspection, homeowners receive a customized report that includes an efficiency score, a summary of the findings and specific recommendations for next steps. To schedule your Home Energy Squad Enhanced visit today, call 651-328-6220 or visit mncee.org/hes/hopkins.

NAVIGATING THE ARTERY

What does the new 8th Ave Artery look like and why?



- 1 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING SIGNAL**
Signals used by pedestrians only
- 2 WIDE SIDEWALK**
Area specifically for pedestrians
- 3 CYCLE TRACK SIGNAL**
For bicyclists only. Directs bicyclists safely across intersections
- 4 CYCLE TRACK**
Two-way cycle track designed specifically for bicyclists
- 5 TRAFFIC SIGNAL**
Directs automotive and transit traffic

3 CYCLE TRACK SIGNAL

RED		Wait until detected by signal system video cameras
YELLOW		Complete crossing or wait until next green
FLASHING YELLOW		Continue crossing, cautioning for turning vehicles
GREEN		Free to cross

5 TRAFFIC SIGNAL

RED		Stop
YELLOW		Yield
GREEN		Go

What do the signal lights mean?



THE STORY OF THE ARTERY

Downtown Hopkins is vibrant, evolving, and rich in historic character. For a long time, the city has expressed a desire to make this hidden gem more visible from Excelsior Boulevard and to create a gateway into Downtown Hopkins that would capitalize on the Southwest Light Rail project, which will have a station at 8th Avenue and Excelsior Boulevard.

Through innovative public outreach and collaborative design, the City of Hopkins redesigned the 8th Avenue corridor to provide a vibrant, interactive, art-centered, “pedestrian-seductive” multi-modal connection between Excelsior Boulevard and the future Downtown Hopkins LRT station and Mainstreet. This connection is called the **8th Avenue Artery**.

The Artery has been strategically built to enable safe access for users of all ages and abilities, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders. The City partnered with outside agencies, such as the Metropolitan Council, Hennepin County, and Three Rivers Park District, to assist with funding the project. The Artery will have a unique and vibrant street environment. As part of the new road design, a separated bike path connects the Lake Minnetonka Regional Trail to the Cedar Lake Regional Trail through downtown Hopkins. Overhead cable lights create a sense of enclosure and place. Permanent public art pieces commissioned specifically for the Artery, as well as spaces for pop-up art, interactive features, and gathering places create active destinations that provide an unparalleled character and serve as an unforgettable landmark. Local artists were engaged to create panels that will further define the pedestrian space, and a custom designed road closure device will allow easy use of the Artery for festivals, street fairs, and the community. Innovative design elements were implemented to manage stormwater in a sustainable way. The City’s hope is that the community will feel a sense of ownership over the space; that it will become a place to linger and engage with neighbors.

The 8th Avenue Artery connects users to regional trails, major transit hubs, historic downtown Hopkins Mainstreet, and primary road networks, inviting all residents and visitors to come, explore, and enjoy the City of Hopkins.

